

culture by the exchange of ideas on all matters pertaining to the garden." In these early years, the meetings were mainly social gatherings accompanied by a lecture and an elaborate tea. By 1917, the club became a chapter of the Garden Club of America, and its focus shifted from teas to civic projects, conservation, preservation of wild flowers, and bird life.

Throughout its history, the Garden Club of Morristown has been politically active, working with Washington and Trenton to advocate various causes. They aided the needy through the Great Depression, as well as planted Victory Gardens and provided acreage for planting during the World Wars. During World War II, the club sent small decorations to local veterans hospitals, which began an annual wreath-making tradition. The Garden Club of Morristown also strongly advocated against the placement of billboards on New Jersey highways that were built with federal funds and supported the efforts to begin the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in 1964.

The Garden Club of Morristown has also worked on several local projects throughout town, such as the beautification of Washington's Headquarters with plantings in 1926. They worked on the Neighborhood House in 1934, as well as Macculloch Hall's historic gardens in 1959, among many others. Within the club itself, overseen by the Horticulture Committee, members had two main projects; attending flower arrangement courses, and working at least three days in a greenhouse for practical lessons. This program saw members win awards for their irises and chrysanthemums, and by 1949, the club had grown to an impressive 77 members.

The achievements of the Garden Club of Morristown continued, and in 1985, by the leadership of Isabel Bartenstein, the club became a Founders Fund finalist for its work on the restoration of the Gardens at Morven in Princeton. In partnership with the Frelinghuysen Arboretum and Morris County Park System, the Garden Club of Morristown established "Branching Out," an award-winning children's garden. Throughout the 1990's, the club held several fundraising events, including a Christmas house tour. From 1997–1999, the Garden Club of Morristown's own Chris Wilmsen served as President of the Garden Club of America. They also hosted dinner parties and garden tours for the Garden Club of America's annual meeting in 1999, and held the Zone IV meeting.

In 2007, Congressman and honorary member Rodney Frelinghuysen was awarded the Garden Club of America's Frances K. Hutchison Medal for conservation, and since 2000, the Garden Club of Morristown has received the award for the most horticultural, flower show, and photography points at the Zone IV meeting five of seven times. The Garden Club of Morristown's annual plant sale continues to be their largest fundraiser, and they remain active in local projects and fundraising events today. The club is as vibrant and vigorous today as it was at its founding one hundred years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Garden Club of Morristown, Morris County as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE BULLITT CENTER, THE GREENEST COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN THE WORLD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 12, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Bullitt Center, which will be the greenest commercial building in the world. The Bullitt Center is complete, and is planning its grand opening on Earth Day, Monday, April 22.

This six-story, 50,000-square-foot building is located near downtown Seattle. The Bullitt Center will achieve the goals of the Living Building Challenge (version 2.0), as described by the International Living Building Institute.

To be certified as a Living Building, a structure is required to be self-sufficient for energy and water for at least 12 continuous months and must meet rigorous standards for green materials and the quality of its indoor environment.

The Bullitt Center features include: a solar array which will generate as much electricity as the building uses; rainwater collection for storage and use throughout the building; and ample natural lighting with opening windows. Also, Bullitt Center has been constructed without "red list" hazardous materials, which include PVC, cadmium, lead, mercury, and hormone-mimicking substances, which are sometimes found in building components.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I celebrate the opening of the Bullitt Center. It is a beautiful, self-sufficient building that exemplify technological leadership and innovation in the Puget Sound region. I am proud that the greenest commercial building demonstrating self-sufficiency for energy and water will soon open in Seattle.

PORT SECURITY GRANT ACT OF 2013

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 12, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, each day, U.S. ports move both imports and exports totaling some \$3.8 billion worth of goods through all 50 States. Additionally, ports move 99.4 percent of overseas cargo volume by weight and generate \$3.95 trillion in international trade. Given the importance of ports to our national economy, they must remain competitive and secure.

Thus, we must remain vigilant and make sure we are giving States the resources necessary, so they can address the constant security threats that continue to loom at our Nation's ports. Whether its scanning foreign cargo for nuclear material or patrolling essential waterways, port security has become increasingly important as we expand into a 21st century global economy. However, funding for these efforts continue to be a challenge as maritime security continue to expand and broaden with ever-evolving threats. Additionally, the economic downturn has forced cash-strapped States to cut funding for these vital security initiatives.

That is why I am reintroducing the Port Security Grant Act, which will extend the Port Security Grant Program through 2017. The Port Security Grant Act addresses these problems by allowing States to receive the Federal funding they need in order to secure their vital ports of entry. The program authorizes up to \$400 million for States to train personnel, expand port recovery and resiliency capabilities, and increase their capacity to detect, respond to, and recover from attacks involving explosive devices.

However, Congress has failed to extend this vital program beyond 2015. By not extending this program, we endanger the critical progress that has been made in port security and increase the overall risk to our national and economic security.

By passing this bill, we will ensure that States continue to receive the funding they need in order to protect our Nation's gateways to the rest of the world.

HONORING DR. ROBERT WITT, CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SYSTEM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 12, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, a decade ago this spring, Dr. Robert Witt became the 26th president of The University of Alabama.

Last March, after nine highly successful years as UA president, Bob was unanimously elected Chancellor of the University of Alabama System. In his new post, he is continuing to transform the UA System, which is comprised of the flagship campus in Tuscaloosa, as well as The University of Alabama at Birmingham and The University of Alabama in Huntsville, into one of America's fastest growing public university systems.

Together, the UA system budget exceeds \$4.6 billion with student enrollment at the three campuses exceeding 57,000 and more than 26,000 employees.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Bob Witt for over a decade of dedication, service and leadership to The University as well as to the State of Alabama.

When Dr. Witt was selected UA president in 2003, he brought to the campus an ambitious "Plan for Growth" to boost student enrollment and school prestige. During a period of austerity in state funding and with challenges in the UA's storied football program, Dr. Witt laid out a strategy of increasing enrollment by forty percent, raising faculty and staff salaries, boosting financial aid to students, and upgrading and expanding university facilities.

His record of growth in Tuscaloosa was truly unprecedented.

During his tenure as president, The University of Alabama established the tremendously successful University Honors College and hired head football coach Nick Saban.

And under Dr. Witt's leadership, total enrollment at the Tuscaloosa campus increased from fewer than 20,000 students to more than 31,000 students. Today, total enrollment at the Tuscaloosa campus exceeds 33,000 students and The University of Alabama is ranked first in the nation among public, flagship universities in the enrollment of National Merit Scholars.